

Open Space and Recreation Plan

Hanover, Massachusetts



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For
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Planning Committee

By
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Huckleberries

What are the natural features which make a township handsome - and worth going far to dwell in? A river with its waterfalls - meadows, lakes, hills, cliffs or individual rocks, a forest and single ancient trees - such things are beautiful. They have a high use which dollars and cents never represent. If the inhabitants of a town were wise they would seek to preserve these things though at a considerable expense. For such things educate far more than any hired teachers or preachers, or any at present recognized system of school education. I do not think him fit to be the founder of a state or even of a town who does not foresee the use of these things, but legislates as it were, for oxen chiefly. It would be worth the while if in each town there were a committee appointed, to see that the beauty of the town received no detriment. If here is the largest boulder in the country, then it should not belong to an individual, not be made into doorsteps. In some countries precious objects of great natural beauty should belong to the public.

Henry David Thoreau